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ACTION EAP-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	ACDE-00	AID-00	AIT-03	CIAE-00	CTME-00
	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	SRPP-00	EB-01	FBIE-00	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-08	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	NSAE-00
	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01
	SP-00	SS-00	STR-01	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	SA-01
	PMB-00	PRME-01	DRL-09	G-00	/050W		

EXCISE

R 060910Z JUL 95
FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0579
INFO AMCONSUL SHENYANG
HQUS US CUSTOMS SERVICE WASHDC
AIT TAIPEI 8008
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU
AMCONSUL SHANGHAI
AMCONSUL CHENGDU

DEPARTMENT OF STATE IM/TPS/CR/TR 57 Date: 5/27/97
☐ RELEASE ☐ DECLASSIFY
☒ EXCISE ☒ DECLASSIFY
☐ DENY IN PART EO Citations

FOIA Exemptions 31
PA Exemptions ☐ CLASSIFY as ☐ S or ☐ C Sec. ☐ TS authority to
☐ DOWNGRADE TS to ☐ S or ☐ C

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BEIJING 029280

DEPARTMENT FOR EAP/CM

CUSTOMS FOR FOREIGN OPERATIONS/HURLEY

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: PREL, PHUM, CH
SUBJECT: MOFTEC OFFICIAL DISCUSSES "DOWNWARD SPIRAL" IN
U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS AND HARRY WU
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1. CONFIDENTIAL -- ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: A MID-LEVEL OFFICIAL, OF THE CHINESE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION

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(MOFTEC) RECENTLY TOLD EMBOFFS THAT U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS COULD CONTINUE TO DETERIORATE IN THE WAKE OF LEE TENG-HUI'S VISIT TO CORNELL UNLESS THE UNITED STATES SOON MAKES A SIGNIFICANT GESTURE OF RECONCILIATION. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND EXPRESSED BEWILDERMENT THAT AMERICANS COULD TAKE HARRY WU'S ALLEGATIONS OF PRISON LABOR IN CHINA SERIOUSLY. END SUMMARY.

3. DURING A JULY 5 MEETING ON A U.S. CUSTOMS PRISON LABOR REFERRAL, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] TO A LONG MONOLOGUE ON THE "DOWNWARD SPIRAL" IN U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS. [REDACTED] SAID THE U.S. GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO TRY TO REPAIR DAMAGE DONE BY THE CONTROVERSY OVER LEE TENG-HUI'S JUNE VISIT TO CORNELL UNIVERSITY. HE INDICATED THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAS SUSPICIOUS OF AND CONFUSED BY THE APPARENT SUDDEN CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY.

4 [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

6. THE GOOD OLD DAYS IN THE U.S.-CHINA RELATIONSHIP
[REDACTED] WERE THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION'S
TREATMENT OF CHINA AS A "NON-ALIGNED FRIENDLY" COUNTRY
DURING THE 1980S. HE ACCUSED THE UNITED STATES OF
CURRENTLY ADOPTING A HOSTILE ATTITUDE OUT OF FEAR OF
CHINA'S GROWING ECONOMIC POWER AND DESIRE TO MAKE CHINA
ITS NEW "ENEMY NUMBER ONE." [REDACTED] ALSO ATTRIBUTED U.S.

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GOVERNMENT POLICY MOTIVES TO ANTI-COMMUNIST IDEOLOGICAL
SENTIMENT IN WASHINGTON.

"THAT" HARRY WU

7. WHILE RESPONDING TO A QUESTION CONCERNING A U.S.
CUSTOMS PRISON LABOR REFERRAL, [REDACTED] BROUGHT UP THE ISSUE
OF HARRY WU. HE SAID HE COULD NOT BELIEVE AMERICANS
TAKE "THAT" HARRY WU'S CHARGES OF CHINESE PRISON LABOR
EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES TO BE CREDIBLE. WHEN
EMBOFFS STRESSED THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THE U.S.
GOVERNMENT AND AMERICAN PEOPLE VIEWED MR. WU'S RECENT
DETENTION BY CHINESE AUTHORITIES, [REDACTED] AGREED IT WOULD BE
A SHAME TO LET THE ISSUE DRAG ON AND CONTINUE TO AFFECT
U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS. HE DECLINED TO SPECULATE,
HOWEVER, WHEN AND WHETHER THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WOULD
RELEASE MR. WU, STATING THAT IT HAS NOT A MATTER WITHIN
HIS DEPARTMENT'S PURVIEW.

8. COMMENT: EVEN UNDER THE BEST OF CIRCUMSTANCES

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[REDACTED] HAS BEEN KNOWN TO PRATTLE ON ABOUT WHAT THE USG COULD BE DOING BETTER WITH RESPECT TO ITS CHINA POLICY. HOWEVER, HIS COMMENTS ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE GENERAL LINE WE HAVE BEEN GETTING FROM MOFTEC IN RECENT DAYS. IT IS ALSO THE LINE WE ARE GETTING MORE GENERALLY FROM OFFICIAL AND SEMI-OFFICIAL (I.E., THINK TANK) CHINESE INTERLOCUTORS. [REDACTED] WAS CAREFUL TO SAY THAT THE LEE TENG-HUI ISSUE HAD NOT DIRECTLY AFFECTED THE ECONOMIC AND TRADE RELATIONSHIP, BUT ADDED INDIVIDUAL DEPARTMENTS/MINISTRIES MAY ON THEIR OWN ACT IN WAYS CONTRARY TO U.S. INTERESTS AS A RESULT OF THE GENERAL ATMOSPHERE. HALLFORD

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL